

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 07119 01 OF 02 171906Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /078 W  
-----048469 171948Z /45

R 171853Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7777  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07119

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, GW, GE, WB  
SUBJECT: "SPIEGEL" REPORTS PREPARATIONS FOR SCHMIDT-  
HONECKER SUMMIT

REFS: (A) BONN 6876  
(B) BERLIN 2427  
(C) BONN 6148  
(D) BONN 4556

1. APRIL 17 EDITION OF WEST GERMAN NEWS MAGAZINE  
"DER SPIEGEL" REPORTS THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAS GIVEN  
THE GDR HIS AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO VISIT GDR LEADER  
ERICH HONECKER SOMETIME THIS YEAR. ACCORDING TO  
"DER SPIEGEL," AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY, RETURNED  
FROM HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE GDR (REF B), INFORMED  
SCHMIDT THAT HONECKER WAS "EXTREMELY INTERESTED" IN A  
SCHMIDT VISIT. THIS LED SCHMIDT TO INSTRUCT HIS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 07119 01 OF 02 171906Z

MINISTER OF STATE, WISCHNEWSKI, TO MAKE PREPARATIONS  
FOR A SUMMIT WITH HONECKER. WISCHNEWSKI PASSED WORD  
OF SCHMIDT'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO THE ALL-GERMAN  
POLICY EXPERT OF THE SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HERBERT  
HAEGER, DURING A SECRET MEETING AT WISCHNEWSKI'S  
COLOGNE RESIDENCE.

2. "SPIEGEL" REPORTS THAT SCHMIDT'S SCHEDULE IS SO FULL THAT HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO VISIT THE GDR UNTIL SEPTEMBER AT THE EARLIEST. THE OTHER DIFFICULTY IS SAID TO BE FINDING SUBJECTS WORTHY OF A SUMMIT MEETING. "SPIEGEL" COMMENTS THAT SCHMIDT WOULD BE SHARPLY CRITICIZED BY THE OPPOSITION IF HE DID NOT RETURN WITH SOMETHING OF SUBSTANCE FROM A TRIP WHICH WILL HAVE HELPED TO SHORE UP HONECKER'S POSITION. VETERINARY AGREEMENTS AND WIDENING OF HIGHWAYS AT BORDER CHECKPOINTS ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. ONLY THE LOWERING OF THE AGE AT WHICH GDR RESIDENTS CAN TRAVEL FREELY TO THE WEST, SAYS "SPIEGEL," WOULD BE PRESTIGIOUS ENOUGH. THE GDR, HOWEVER, WOULD DEMAND CASH ON THE BARREL FOR SUCH A CONCESSION AND, IN THE INTERESTS OF BOLSTERING ITS CLAIM TO COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY, WOULD NEVER AGREE TO PUT ANYTHING IN WRITING WITH THE FRG. HONECKER WOULD PLAY THE LOWERING OF THE TRAVEL AGE AS AN ACT OF UNILATERAL MAGNANIMITY. SCHMIDT, ON THE OTHER HAND, WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE ACCUSED OF PAYING FOR HUMAN IMPROVEMENTS WHICH SHOULD BE A MATTER OF COURSE.

3. ACCORDING TO "SPIEGEL," THE ONLY SUITABLE ITEM WHICH SCHMIDT'S ALL-GERMAN POLICY ADVISERS HAVE DEVELOPED SO FAR FOR A SUMMIT AGENDA WOULD BE A GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE PLANNED NEW AUTOBAHN BETWEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 07119 01 OF 02 171906Z

BERLIN AND HAMBURG. THIS WOULD DELAY THE VISIT EVEN MORE, SAYS "SPIEGEL," BECAUSE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE ROUTE OF THE NEW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 07119 02 OF 02 171906Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /078 W

-----048475 171949Z /45

R 171853Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7778  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07119

HIGHWAY BEFORE JUNE 4, AFTER THE LANDTAG ELECTIONS IN  
LOWER SAXONY AND HAMBURG.

4. "SPIEGEL" COMMENTS THAT THE SUMMIT WOULD ONLY BE  
USEFUL FOR THE SPD IF HONECKER AGREED TO A FUNDAMENTAL  
DISCUSSION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE  
TWO GERMAN STATES. HONECKER, HOWEVER, WOULD RATHER  
USE THE VISIT AS AN OCCASION TO PRESENT SCHMIDT WITH  
A LIST OF COMPLAINTS AND DEMANDS, AMONG THEM, CONCLU-  
SION OF A BORDER TREATY, FRG ACTION AGAINST MISUSE OF  
THE TRANSIT ROUTES AND STRICTER FRG OBSERVANCE OF THE  
QA. "SPIEGEL" REPORTS THAT HONECKER HAS AGREED TO  
FOREGO THE "EXPLOSIVE" SUBJECT OF GDR CITIZENSHIP WHEN  
HE MEETS WITH SCHMIDT.

5. COMMENT: THE "SPIEGEL" ARTICLE IS CONSISTENT WITH  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 07119 02 OF 02 171906Z

THE FRG'S PUBLIC LINE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE CHAN-  
CELLOR'S STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (REF D). THE  
"SPIEGEL" ARTICLE IS PLAUSIBLE BUT ADDS LITTLE TO WHAT  
IS ALREADY KNOWN ABOUT THE FRG'S ATTITUDE TOWARD A  
SCHMIDT/HONECKER MEETING. IT DOES, HOWEVER, ADD SOME  
DETAILS AND INDICATES THE FRG'S CONTINUED WILLINGNESS,  
PROVIDED THE FRG/GDR CLIMATE IS RIGHT, TO AGREE TO A  
MEETING IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.  
STOESSEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS, SUMMIT MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BONN07119  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780164-0613  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780451/aaaabqwd.tel  
**Line Count:** 163  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7e0128ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BONN 6876, 78 BONN 6148, 78 BONN 4556  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2951541  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** \"SPIEGEL\" REPORTS PREPARATIONS FOR SCHMIDT- HONECKER SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** PGOV, GE, GC, WB, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT), (HONECKER, ERICH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7e0128ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014